

**STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY GOVERNING BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**ATTENDEES:** **Ron Baldwin**, CIO, (Vice Chair; Acting Chairman for Leo Dutton); **Jon Swartz**, MDT Alternate; **Tom Butler**, MHP Alternate; **Sandra Barrows**, MITS (for Bonnie Lorang); **Bob Drake**, Tri-Lakes FD; **Jason Smith**, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs; **Joe Briggs**, MACo; **Siri Smillie**, Governor's Office; **Curt Stinson**, MACOP; **Mike Tooley**, MDT; **Dave Gibson**, MTA Alternate

**GUESTS:** **Keith Cook**, Motorola Solutions; **Von Beals**, Motorola Solutions; **Mike Feldman**, MHP; **Quinn Ness**, SITSD; **Chad Hultin**, SITSD; **Rhonda Sullivan**, SITSD; **Dan Sullivan**, SITSD; **Carrie Castle**, SITSD

**CONFERENCE CALL:** **Kevin Myhre**, MLCT; **Dorothy Gremaux**, MLCT Alternate; **Roger Nasset**, MACOP Alternate; **Patrick Lonergan**, MFCA

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 1:33 by Acting Chairman, Ron Baldwin. Introductions were done.

**APPROVAL OF APRIL & MAY MINUTES:** One change was noted by Dorothy Gremaux in that she was in attendance at the May meeting via conference call. Bob Drake moved to approve April and May minutes as amended, and Jon Swartz seconded. The motion passed.

**STATUS REPORTS:**

Statewide Trunked LMR System: Quinn Ness provided the Governor's 2013 Executive Order for reference and provided the following updates:

- Complete the LMR Backbone: Procurement of the microwave equipment is underway and the backbone is projected to be completed by October 1, 2015.
- Development of a plan for ongoing Operations/Maintenance of the statewide LMR System: Completed in the fall of 2014.
- Oversee and provide guidance in implementation of the SLIGP: Ongoing.
- Provide oversight and consult with FirstNet as the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network is deployed in Montana: Currently engaged in this process with an initial consultation meeting being held last October; along with data collection efforts that are currently underway.
- Encourage public safety stakeholders to participate in FirstNet: Ongoing.

- Coordinate/encourage integration of public and private communications resources as requested by FirstNet: At this time, FirstNet is focusing on private commercial infrastructure, and not public infrastructure in the initial deployment of the network.
- Update the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan to include broadband goals and objectives: Completed in 2014.
- To date, the Board has completed a majority of the objectives in the Governor's Executive Order, with all of the objectives forecasted to be complete by October 1, 2015 when the Executive Order expires.

FirstNet Broadband Network: Dan Sullivan reported on following: See report.

- He recently attended the Public Safety Communication Research Conference in San Diego.
- Data collection efforts are underway, and to date, MSPOA and DES have responded with membership lists. He will be contacting state agencies for the same information.
- SIGB to respond with suggestions to five coverage area priorities.
- FirstNet has provided a baseline data map for use to plot a Montana specific map to include natural disaster areas, recreation areas during high population travel times, and other major events; and Dan is currently working with the State Library to produce this map.
- A Tribal Nations Consultation Workshop is scheduled in Helena on June 9 & 10; tribes are encouraged to participate in data collection and determining their own coverage area objectives.

**OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION - PLANNING:** Ron Baldwin invited board members to open discussion in regard to the future of the SIGB:

- Joe Briggs stated that the new business plan should be in a format to include a longer period of time and he would still like to invite a professor to attend future meetings in assisting with getting this implemented.
- Tom Butler reported that there is less than a year to sort these issues out, as the budget for 2017 legislative session will begin next March.
- Siri Smillie commented on the importance of renewing the Executive Order; and implementing a clear business plan for the next legislative session, which needs to be based on recommendations of the SIGB as a group and should identify areas that still need work.
- Quinn Ness reminded the board that per the objectives of the SLIGP grant, it is required by the grantor, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), that the state have a governing body (ex: advisory

council) to engage in the FirstNet consultation process. Currently the SLIGP grant is the only source of funding to support the activities and expenses of the Board.

- Joe Briggs brought up discussion that was held earlier regarding a MOU and transfer of funding for microwave hops, and he questioned if there's any other funding contemplated for LMR maintenance. Quinn stated that there could be a small amount of funding available from the 2013 HB 10 appropriation. As projects are completed and closed out, there may be a small amount of residue funding that could be used for maintenance, but we don't know the exact amount at this time.

#### **OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION SUMMARY:**

- Bring in a facilitator, and implement a clear business plan.
- Recreate/renew the Executive Order (Quinn Ness will provide to members for review/comment).
- Revisit/update SIGB memberships.
- Continue holding meetings on a monthly basis, to be held at DOT.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Quinn Ness announced that he spoke with NTIA officials and he will be working with the Governor's Office in the appointment of Ron Baldwin as the SPOC (State Point of Contact).

**NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN:** The next meeting is July 14 at the DOT Commission's Room. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.